

## Iowa USDA Foods Advisory Council Meeting

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The Iowa Commodity Advisory Council met on Friday, **October 1, 2010**. Council members in attendance were: Jane Heikenen, Diana Weber, Virginia Bechtold, Lisa Nolting, Allison Ketter, Donna Becker, and Donna Sevenich and two ISU Interns. Those not in attendance were Nancy Hogstad, Judi Olson, Marie Miller, Lori Behlen, and Denise Rawson. Michael Leaders also attended.

The meeting with introductions and round table product sampling began at 10:00 a.m. At 11:00 a.m., brokers representing United Commodity Group, DBC Brokerage, Roisum Elite, Hockenberg Newburgh, HHS Sales, Food Marketing Services, CanTwo Food Brokerage and Mid-America Marketing gave the council information about their product lines and provided ideas for future processed items.

Following the presentations by brokers, the business meeting was called to order at 1:20 p.m. by Allison Ketter. The meeting minutes from May 12, 2010 were approved. Election of officers took place; Nancy Hogstad was elected president and Lisa Nolting was elected secretary.

### *Business Items:*

1. Discussed food presentations by processors to determine products for RFPs
  - a. Turkey products; will bid on unbreaded turkey burgers and turkey mini corn dogs
  - b. Breakfast products; will bid on scrambled eggs, egg pattie, cheese omelet, and breakfast wrap.
  - c. Will continue with cinnamon flavored applesauce cups rather than changing to other flavors
2. USDA Foods Council Sampling will be on **January 28, 2011** at Des Moines Central Kitchen, 1225 2nd Avenue, Des Moines
3. Items up for bid for SY 2011-12 from five year list and other items will be sampled as follows:
  - a. SNA fall meeting November 13, 2010 participants will taste popcorn chicken and French toast sticks
  - b. Council will sample at January 28 meeting
    - Cinnamon applesauce cups
    - Breakfast items
    - Turkey items
  - c. Students will sample at schools
    - Spaghetti sauce
    - Breaded mozz sticks (using yeast type breading)
    - Mandarin orange chicken or similar flavoring
    - Sunflower butter/jelly sandwiches (see item 1d below)
  - d. Items council is not bidding for next year include Pizzatas and Pizza Dippers

### *Additional Items:*

1. Discussed the new products mentioned during broker presentations and new products for NOI or RFPs.

- a. High Liner Foods – Considering adding Pollock to NOI offerings for SY 2012 if we can get either one truck or split a truck with another state.
  - b. Basic American Foods – Consider adding to NOI offerings for SY 2012.
  - c. Red River Commodities: Sunflower cups and pouches, decision made to add for NOI as brown box sunflower butter doesn't move quickly enough in the warehouse and will be discontinued once inventory is depleted.
  - d. Decided to bid on sunflower/jelly "uncrustable" for SY 2012.
  - e. Council will look over material from brokers for additional ideas for future items.
2. Issues with current products
  - a. Mandarin orange chicken – having problems getting delivery at both warehouses. Council will re-bid the product with Ling's, Tyson, and Asian Food Solutions.
  - b. Mrs. Clarks – having problems getting delivery of items, also with cases falling apart. Considering not offering margarine products in the future.
3. The bid is up again for commodity deliveries. Dean will be sending out to companies in January 2011.
4. DOD meeting will be held October 26 at the WDM Learning Center.
5. New Item A494 – Chicken, Roasted, 8 pieces individually frozen will be on Keck order beginning fourth delivery period.
6. Discussed SFAs who are having difficulties ordering their commodities online. Suggestions for educating them include an ICN course since regional meetings were not favorable with state agency consultants.
7. Discussion about regional NOI meetings again this year. Virginia Bechtold suggested Council Bluffs for the western site. A suggestion was made to include a representative from ProcessorLink or K12 Connections.

Motion to adjourn the meeting at 2:30 was seconded by Lisa Nolting.

Submitted by:

*Lisa Nolting, Secretary*